

On Behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to congratulate and thank Bill Hannah for his 35 years of service to his committee. Bill is a true professional in every sense of the word, and I wish him the best of luck as he embarks on a new chapter in his life.

HONORING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF VALLEY GRANGE NO. 1360 IN YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

### HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to the members of Valley Grange No. 1360 on its 110th Anniversary.

Valley Grange No. 1360 was officially chartered on October 7, 1907. The Grange is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, fraternal organization that advocates for rural America and agriculture. Family and community are its foundations and the Grange was the first national organization to give full voice and vote to women.

Valley Grange No. 1360 has been a leader in the Grange organization, producing two Pennsylvania State Grange Masters—J. Luther Snyder and Carl Meiss; two National Grange officers—J. Luther Snyder and Fae Snyder—and it is the home of several past State Grange officers and youth ambassadors.

Valley Grange No. 1360 has also been very committed to its community throughout the years, supporting organizations such as 4-H, the Boy Scouts, the local Little League and has contributed to countless charitable endeavors.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank the members of Valley Grange No. 1360 for their dedicated service to their community and congratulate them on their 110th Anniversary. We wish them continued great success in the years to come.

HONORING STANLEY, THE ENGLISH BULLDOG

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stanley, an English Bulldog in my district, who has become an inspiration to many of my constituents and continues to serve his community.

Stanley was born with a bilateral cleft lip, requiring the need for surgery to tooth problems and holes in his sinus passages. The community came together and raised the funds for the surgery. Now, Stanley goes to schools and community events and has become a source of inspiration for kids with his anti-bullying message. Stanley has also recently joined with the American Childhood Cancer Organization to form the first local chapter of the Founding Hope program, helping to raise funds and awareness to help children with cancer get the support they need.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Stanley and the Pack family for their continuing service to their community, and for serving as an inspiration for children who face bullying and cancer diagnoses.

IN HONOR OF COMMISSIONER LUKE POPE STRONG, JR.

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I pay tribute to an outstanding civic leader and public servant of Georgia, a pillar in the Colquitt County community, and a friend of longstanding, Commissioner Luke P. Strong, Jr. Commissioner Strong passed away on Sunday, September 24, 2017. A funeral service was held on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at Lakeside Assembly of God in Moultrie, Georgia.

Commissioner Strong was born on April 4, 1947, to the union of Luke Strong, Sr. and Mamie Brown-Strong. He was a product of the Colquitt County School System and graduated from the historic William Bryant High School in 1964. After graduation, he received a greater calling upon his life when he enlisted in the United States Army. He served proudly and honorably for five years. But, this was not the only calling that he would receive in his lifetime. He attended Gupton-Janes School of Mortuary Science in Atlanta, Georgia. He also was a graduate of the ABAC Police Academy and served as a police officer for one year at the McRae Police Department and four years as a deputy with the Montgomery County Sheriffs Department. He then served, alongside his father, as the Vice-President of Strong Enterprises.

In 1986, he was elected as the first and only African American Colquitt County Commissioner, which launched a historic career in public service that would lead him to become the longest seated elected official in Colquitt County. In 1995, he founded Luke Strong and Son Mortuary, L.T.D, which has grown to be one of the leading funeral establishments in South Georgia.

Shirley Chisholm once said that, "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Commissioner Strong paid his rent and he paid it well. He gave his time and talents to many social and civic organizations to include: the Moultrie Colquitt Branch of the NAACP, The Georgia Association of County Commissioners, Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials (GABEO), The National Association of County Commissioners, The Moultrie Men's Club, American Legion Post 533, and Moultrie Technical College Board of Directors. In 2016, he was the recipient of the Ram Round-Up and Community Service Award. Commissioner Strong was also a God fearing man. He was a member of the Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church where he was a member of the Board of Stewards, Board of Trustees and the Sons of Allen.

The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said that, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with young, compassionate with aged, sympa-

thetic with striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these people." Commissioner Strong never forgot this lesson and was a man who would give you the shirt off of his back. He never advertised what he did for others, but was the true epitome of "Servant Leadership."

On a personal note, Commissioner Strong and his family have been dear friends to my wife Vivian and me for many years and I will miss the wise counsel that he imparted to me over the years.

Commissioner Strong has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his family. His legacy lives on through his wife, Betty, his six children, four grandchildren and all of those that he touched in a very special way.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with a multitude of other people all across Georgia, salute Commissioner Luke Pope Strong, Jr. for his outstanding public service and his everlasting commitment to improving the quality of the Colquitt County community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Commissioner Strong's family during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on October 2, 2017, I missed the following votes due to a flight delay. Had I been present, I would have voted:

On Roll Call Vote 544, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 1547, I would have voted Aye.

On Roll Call Vote 545, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 965, I would have voted Aye.

### TRIBUTE TO REX BROWN

#### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 3, 2017*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Rex Brown, a friend and beloved member of the Decatur community, who passed away earlier this month.

After finishing law school in 1957, Rex moved his family to Decatur where he built his career as the Senior Partner at his firm Brown, Hawkins, & Basola. He was a recipient of the Board of Governor's Award from the Illinois State Bar Association and enjoyed teaching Business and Real Estate Law at Richland Community College.

Not only was Rex well-respected as a lawyer in Decatur, but also as a prominent community member with a passion for serving his neighbors. He served as Chairman of the